



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hideaki NOMURA *et al.*
Title: POWDERY PREPARATION FOR MUCOSAL
ADMINISTRATION CONTAINING POLYMERIC MEDICINE
Appl. No.: 09/720,970
Filing Date: 1/3/2001
Examiner: Sharmila S. Gollamudi
Art Unit: 1616

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated March 3, 2004, and is accompanied by a Petition for a one-month extension of time and the appropriate fee. Accordingly, Applicants consider this paper timely filed as of July 3rd. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed, for example, by a check's being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 CFR §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document. **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: